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Imagery analysis report

Iraq/Iran Military Summary

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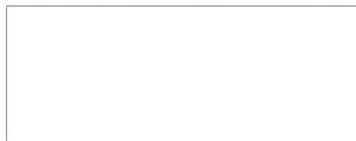
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IRAQ/IRAN MILITARY SUMMARY, [] (S)

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1. (S/D) This report updates the most recent¹ in a series of imagery-derived reports on the Iraq/Iran conflict [] This report discusses deployed ground forces in the forward area, rear garrison units (Figure 1), airfields, naval bases, commercial shipping, POL facilities, and related activity in Saudi Arabia. Military unit designators and subordination (where used) are derived from collateral sources.² Acronyms and abbreviations are defined in a glossary at the end of the report. Additional reports will be issued as the situation changes.

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OVERVIEW

2. (S/D) Imagery of the forward areas of conflict during the reporting period showed no change in the disposition of Iraqi or Iranian forces in the Dezful area. No significant activity was observed on limited coverage of the Khorramshahr/Abadan and Qasr-E Shirin areas.

3. (S/D) Seven Iraqi and 14 Iranian rear area garrisons/facilities were imaged. Most of the captured Iranian equipment had been removed from the area next to the stadium in Baghdad, Iraq. Iranian helicopter activity was observed at four facilities in the Tehran area.

4. (S/D) Two Iraqi and 17 Iranian airfields were imaged. The major Iranian F-14 base at Shiraz remained undamaged.

5. (S/D) No Iraqi naval facilities were imaged. Naval activity was seen at four Iranian facilities.

6. (S/D) Nine Iraqi and 18 Iranian POL-related facilities were imaged. New damage was observed at three Iraqi and one Iranian facility.

7. (S/D) Related activity included vehicular traffic at the Iranian/Turkish border transshipment point near Bazargan, Iran, and the identification of a Soviet-bloc arms carrier in Saudi Arabia.

GROUND FORCE ACTIVITY

Iraq/Iran Forward Areas

Khorramshahr/Abadan Area

8. (S/D) Along the Shatt Al Arab, 12 nm southeast of Abadan near Khosrowabad, Iran, no Iraqi or Iranian ground force units were observed in cloud-free areas []

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Dezful Area

9. (S/D) Elements of two Iraqi tank brigades remained 13.5 nm west of Dezful [] One of the tank brigades was previously reported as a mechanized infantry brigade. Additional Iraqi units observed included a tank battalion, an FA battalion, an FA battery, two SA-6 battalions, and a possible CP 17 nm west of Dezful. Elements of a tank company, an FA battalion, a mechanized infantry company, and an engineer unit were in this area [] The Iranian forces, which remained west of the Karkheh River, consisted of two tank companies and a mechanized infantry platoon.

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10. (S/D) The Iraqi force 14.5 nm southwest of Dezful and immediately west of Shush was still present [] This force consisted of three tank battalions and a mechanized infantry battalion and appeared to be brigade sized.

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11. (S/D) Elements of the Iraqi tank brigade 8 to 12 nm west of Shush were still present [] These forces consisted of one tank battalion, two mechanized infantry companies, two mechanized infantry platoons, three FA battalions, a possible CP, and one engineer battalion. Air defense for this force was being provided by at least two SA-6 battalions. Units in this area are believed to be the headquarters and several maneuver elements of an Iraqi armor division.

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12. (S/D) Iranian forces deployed southwest of Dezful in the Shush area consisted of three tank platoons, one mechanized infantry platoon, and one SP gun battalion. A tank company and three SP gun batteries were present []

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13. (S/D) Iranian forces within 10 nm of Dezful, stretching from the northwest to the southwest quadrant, consisted of one tank battalion, one tank battalion-minus, two tank companies, one tank platoon, one mechanized infantry platoon, two SP gun batteries, and four FA batteries. The probable CP remained in ravines immediately northwest of the city. Only one of the AA sites near Vahdati AB Airfield [] was imaged. Although force strengths in the Shush and Dezful areas remained essentially unchanged, there was some repositioning of units; however, haze precluded a detailed analysis of the entire area.

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14. (S/D) The status of equipment in the Dezful Barracks and Brigade Headquarters []

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Qasr-E Shirin Area

15. (S/D) Iraqi forces were observed deployed in an area north and northeast of Qasr-E Shirin []
[] These forces consisted of one FA battalion supported by two AA batteries 16 nm
northeast of Qasr-E Shirin and one SA-6 battalion 4 nm north of Qasr-E Shirin. A field logistics supply
point consisting of approximately 150 trucks was in Iraq, 8 nm northwest of Qasr-E Shirin. No Iranian
forces were observed in the area.

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16. (S/D) Sar-E Pol-E Zahab Barracks and Brigade Headquarters and Depot [] still
appeared to be in Iranian control [] No increase in equipment levels, new unit arrivals, or
further unit departures were observed at the installation. Elements of the armor brigade (at least 40 tanks,
65 APCs, and 150 trucks) remained in garrison. An AH-1 helicopter was observed on the parade field. One
battery of four probable 155mm SP howitzers M109A1 was deployed approximately 3 nm northwest of the
barracks area at 34-22-10N 045-55-57E. An SP battery was observed in this area []

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17. (S/D) The area occupied by the Iraqi force east and southeast of Qasr-E Shirin []
[]

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Rear Areas

Iraq

18. (S/D) One mechanized infantry platoon and one six-gun FA battery were deployed in revetments
approximately 4.5 nm west of Al Faw, at 29-58-40N 048-25-30E, []

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19. (S/D) Elements of two tank battalions were observed at Az Zubayr Barracks and Brigade Headquar-
ters Southwest [] These battalions had not been present []

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20. (S/D) Fifty-three cargo trucks were observed dispersed at As Samawah Military Area []
[] Two hundred trucks had been observed there []

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21. (S/D) [] at least 29 BMP APCs, 16 BTR-60 APCs, and 18
armored vehicles departed the transshipment depot at Baghdad Barracks School Corps Brigade Headquarters
Depot Rashid [] During the same time period, at least 37 tanks arrived at the depot. Nine van
trucks operationally deployed in the communications battalion area [] were no longer present. Two
T-72-equipped tank battalions, four PMP bridge companies, major elements of the communications battalion,
and a heavy lift battalion remained out of garrison.

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22. (S/D) Most of the captured Iranian equipment had been removed from the area next to the stadium 2
nm north of this installation. Only four tanks and 11 armored vehicles remained in the area where at least 60
tanks and five tank transporters had been observed []

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23. (S/D) Elements of at least a tank company, a ZSU-23/4 battery, and a CP were identified in the
Baghdad Army Post Palace Guard [] and in the vicinity of the palace [] Major
equipment included at least 20 medium tanks, three ZSU-23/4 SPAA guns, one possible net-covered R-400
radio-relay antenna, and one possible CP.

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24. (S/D) An artillery battery departed Kani Miran Military Camp [], 50 nm northeast of
Kirkuk, [] Thirty-two trucks were in revetments or were dispersed throughout
the area.

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25. (S/D) The SA-3 equipment at Kirkuk SA-3 SAM Site Northeast [] had been removed
[] This equipment was last observed []

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Iran

26. (S/D) Training activity continued at Tabriz Barracks and Training Center []
[] Numerous personnel and several vehicles (one bus, one van, one light utility vehicle, and two
sedans [] one bus, two light utility vehicles, and three sedans [] were at the small-
arms firing range immediately south of the barracks area. A convoy of 12 cargo trucks, assembled just inside the
northern entrance to the installation [] had departed by the following day. An increased number
of jeeps and buses were also observed near the vehicle sheds in the northernmost portion of the barracks area on
both dates.

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27. (S/D) Approximately 18 light utility vehicles arrived in a parking area in the eastern section of Shiraz
Barracks and Training Center Northeast [] No unusual
activity was observed at Shiraz Barracks Area South [] and Shiraz Barracks Training Center
and Brigade Headquarters []

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28. (S/D) Helicopters departed four areas around Tehran during the reporting period. []
[] four of the seven AB-214 helicopters departed Tehran Barracks and National Defense University
Qasr-E Qajar [] one CH-47 helicopter departed Tehran Barracks and Special Forces Brigade
Headquarters Bach E Shah [] and one of the three AB-214s departed Tehran Military Police
Barracks Jamshidiyeh [] One AB-214 departed Zendan-E Qasr Prison [] between
[] One AB-214 and three Jet Ranger helicopters remained at the prison. No unusual activity or
changes were observed at five additional ground forces installations in Tehran []

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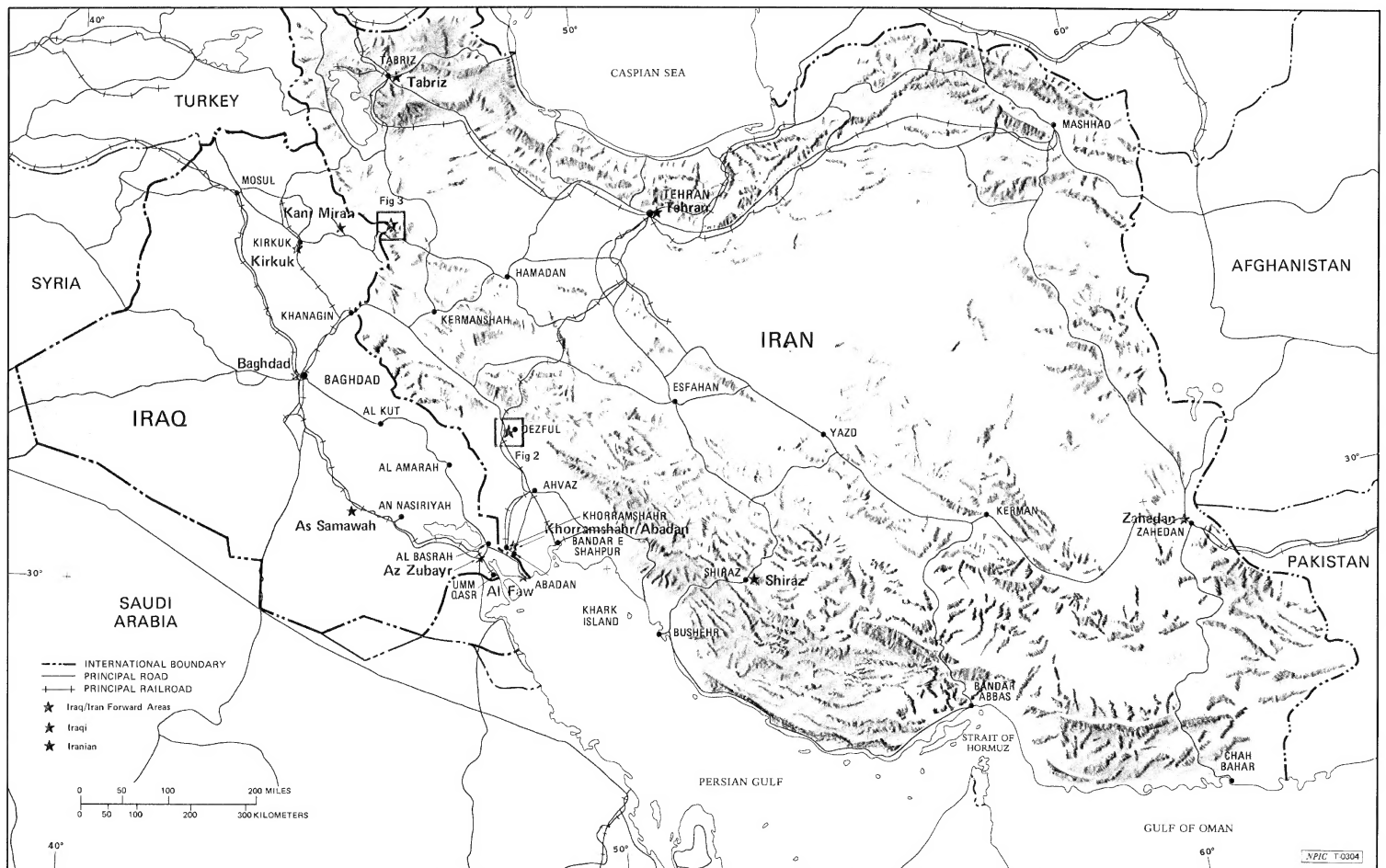


FIGURE 1. IRAQI/IRANIAN GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY

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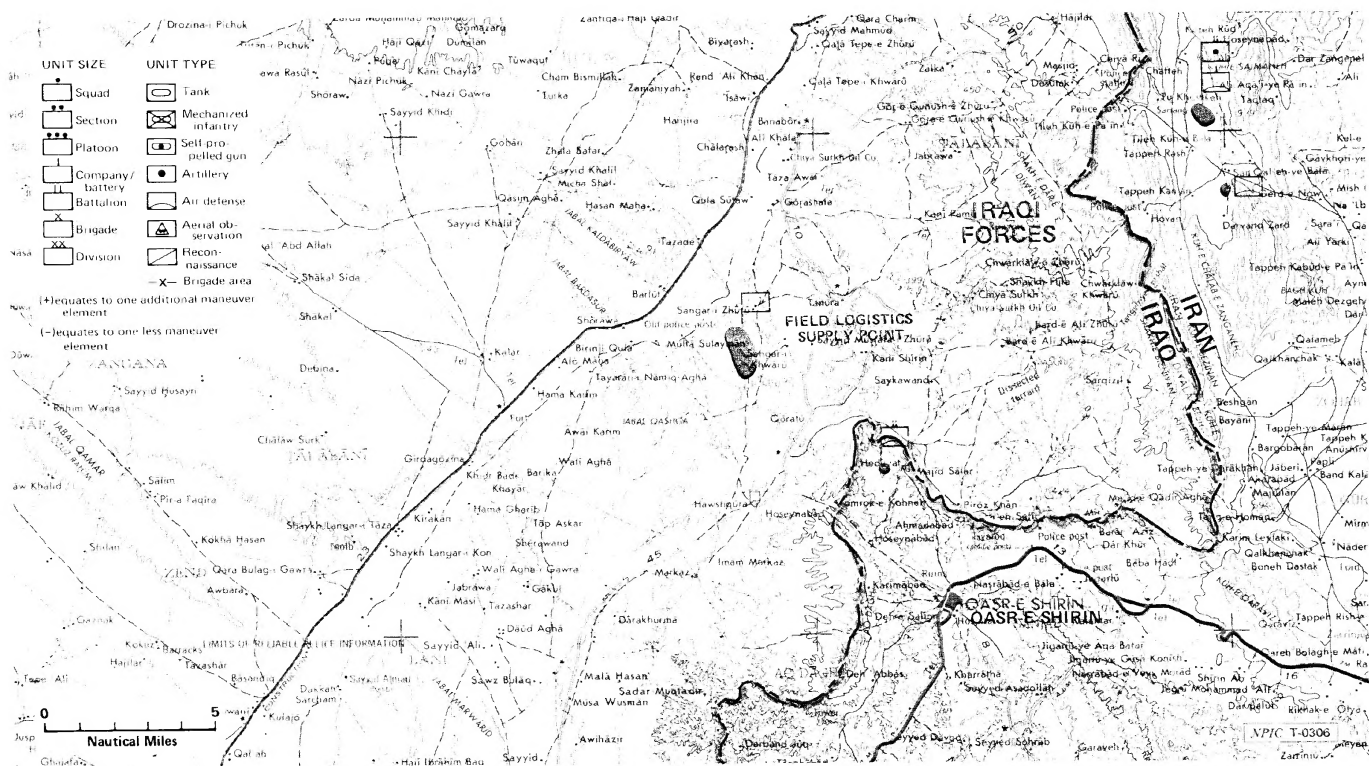
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29. (S/D) A large number of personnel were training on the parade ground and adjacent open field at Zahedan Barracks Area [redacted]. In addition, 23 M-60 tanks, 36 BMP, 28 BTR-60, 14 BTR-50, and 13 M-113 APCs, 15 M109 SP guns, and four M-577 command vehicles were observed at the garrison.

AIR ACTIVITY

30. (S/D) Two Iraqi and 17 Iranian airfields were imaged (Figure 5). No new damage was observed at any of the airfields.

Iraq

31. (S/D) No significant change was observed on partial coverage of Kirkuk Airfield [redacted] and Rasheed Airfield [redacted].

Iran

32. (S/D) Six airfields in the Tehran area, ten airfields along the southern coast of Iran, and one abandoned airfield near Yazd [redacted].

33. (S/D) Military aircraft at Shiraz International Airfield [redacted] included 11 F-14s (one on the taxiway); one possible F-14 in a hangar; four P-3s; ten C-130s; five probable AB-214 helicopters; and two small, straight-wing aircraft. No aircraft were on the alert aprons. One F-7, two F-27s, and two small, straight-wing aircraft were in the civil terminal area. A Falcon was taxiing toward the large military parking apron. Approximately 58 POL trucks were lined up at the main entrance to the administration area. Three 35mm AA gun sites and eight ZU-23 AA sites were still defensively deployed around the airfield.

34. (S/D) At Tehran Doshan/Tappeh Airfield [redacted] three C-130s and five F-27s were present [redacted]. Approximately 50 personnel were at the rear of one of the C-130s. Only one C-130 and two F-27s were present [redacted]. The Rapier sites remained occupied.

35. (S/D) Two transporters (one with an unidentified piece of equipment), two probable generators, three probable vans, and four canvas-covered vehicles/pieces of equipment were observed at Semnan New Airfield [redacted]. This equipment is not usually seen at this airfield.

36. (S/D) One vehicle was observed on the west end of the runway at Manzariyeh Airfield [redacted]. The vehicle had not been present [redacted].

37. (S/D) No significant change was observed at the following airfields.

Bandar Abbas NAS Airfield [redacted]
Bandar Abbas International Airfield [redacted]
Bushehr Airfield [redacted]
Chah Bahar Airfield [redacted]
Chah Bahar AB Airfield [redacted]
Khark Island Airfield [redacted]
Kish Airfield [redacted]
Lavan Airfield [redacted]
Lengeh Airfield [redacted]
Yazd Airfield [redacted]
Manzariyeh Airfield [redacted]
Mahabad West Airfield [redacted]
Tehran SW Airstrip [redacted]

NAVAL ACTIVITY

Iran

38. (S/D) Two Wellington LCMAs and four Winchester PBA/PCFAs were at Khark Island Hovercraft Base [redacted]. This was a decrease of one Wellington LCMA [redacted]. One La Combattante-IIB (Kamen) PTG and one PF-103 PF were underway off Khark Island [redacted].

39. (S/D) Heavy haze covered Bushehr Naval Base [redacted]. Two La Combattante IIB (Kamen) PTGs had probably departed, and one possible PF-103 PF had arrived at the base since 4 November. Vessels in port included two possible PF-103 PFs, seven probable La Combattante-IIB (Kamen) PTGs, and at least seven MK-III PBs.

COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

Shatt Al Arab

40. (S/D) Heavy clouds limited observation of the Shatt Al Arab on 7 November. Only one freighter, moored in midriver, approximately 16 nm southeast of Abadan Port Facilities [redacted] Iran, was visible.

Iraq

41. (S/D) Near the mouth of the Shatt Al Arab, at Al Faw Port Facilities [redacted] one bulk carrier and one coastal/small freighter remained at the piers, while two freighters and one probable tanker were moored in midriver. No damage was observed at the port.

Iran

42. (S/D) Four Wellington LCMAs, five bulk cargo ships, one small tanker, and numerous barges and small craft were at Bandar-E Shahpur Port Facilities [redacted]. A floating crane was adjacent to a small, capsized vessel near the bulk loading pier. One Wellington LCMA arrived in port, and one bulk cargo ship departed [redacted].

43. (S/D) Increased activity continued to be observed in and around the port facility. Five FA guns had been set up in the far western portion of the facility. The FA and AAA guns observed in the rail yard [redacted] were no longer present, and the presence of the AA guns and AA machine guns previously identified near the transshipment area could not be determined. Approximately 24 of the 52 cargo trucks that had been scattered throughout an open area at the north edge of the port facilities [redacted] had been moved to two areas immediately north of the open storage area. The remainder of the trucks were parked along the edges of the open storage area. The vehicles previously identified on railcars within the port facility were no longer present. The mobile electronics site had been relocated from north of the transshipment area to an area on the western side of the port facility. An RH-53 helicopter was observed in flight.

44. (S/D) Three medium general cargo ships, one small general cargo ship, and a Raffello APB were moored at Bushehr Port Facilities [redacted]. Because of the heavy haze covering the port, it was not possible to determine if these were the same vessels observed in port [redacted].

Straits of Hormuz

45. (S/D) One Battle DDG and one Hengham LST departed Bandar Abbas Port Facilities Suru [redacted] [redacted] the Battle DDG, one PGM-71 PGM, and one Vosper MK-5 (SAAM) FFG had returned to port. The Vosper MK-5 (SAAM) FFG had been observed underway in the Persian Gulf, south of the harbor. [redacted] Naval vessels in port [redacted] were the Battle DDG, two Sumner DDGs, three Vosper MK-5 (SAAM) FFGs, two PGM-71 PGMs, six MK-III PBs, three PBRs, one Hengham LST (in the large graving dock), one Bandar Abbas AORL, one Kangan AWK, a Michaelangelo APB, one Amphion AR, and one ARD-T.

46. (S/D) In addition to the naval activity, commercial ship activity was also observed at this port. Six medium bulk cargo ships (one being towed out of port), three medium general cargo ships, one container ship, and one coastal/small freighter were in port. [redacted] two medium bulk cargo ships, one container ship, and a coastal/small freighter arrived in port, and one medium bulk cargo ship, three medium general cargo ships, and one coastal/small freighter departed.

47. (S/D) One tanker, two medium general cargo ships, and two medium bulk carriers were in a holding area in the Persian Gulf, south of the harbor [redacted]. No military deck cargo was observed on any of the merchant ships.

48. (S/D) Three medium bulk carriers, three medium general cargo ships, and one small general cargo ship were at the quay at Shah Bandar Abbas Port Facilities [redacted]. Material from six of the ships was being unloaded onto trucks. Five additional medium general cargo ships and one medium bulk cargo ship were moored in the protective anchorage. Material was being unloaded from two of these vessels onto barges. Only two medium general cargo ships had been in the anchorage [redacted]. The three medium bulk carriers and three medium general cargo ships seen at the quay [redacted] had departed. (Continued p. 14)

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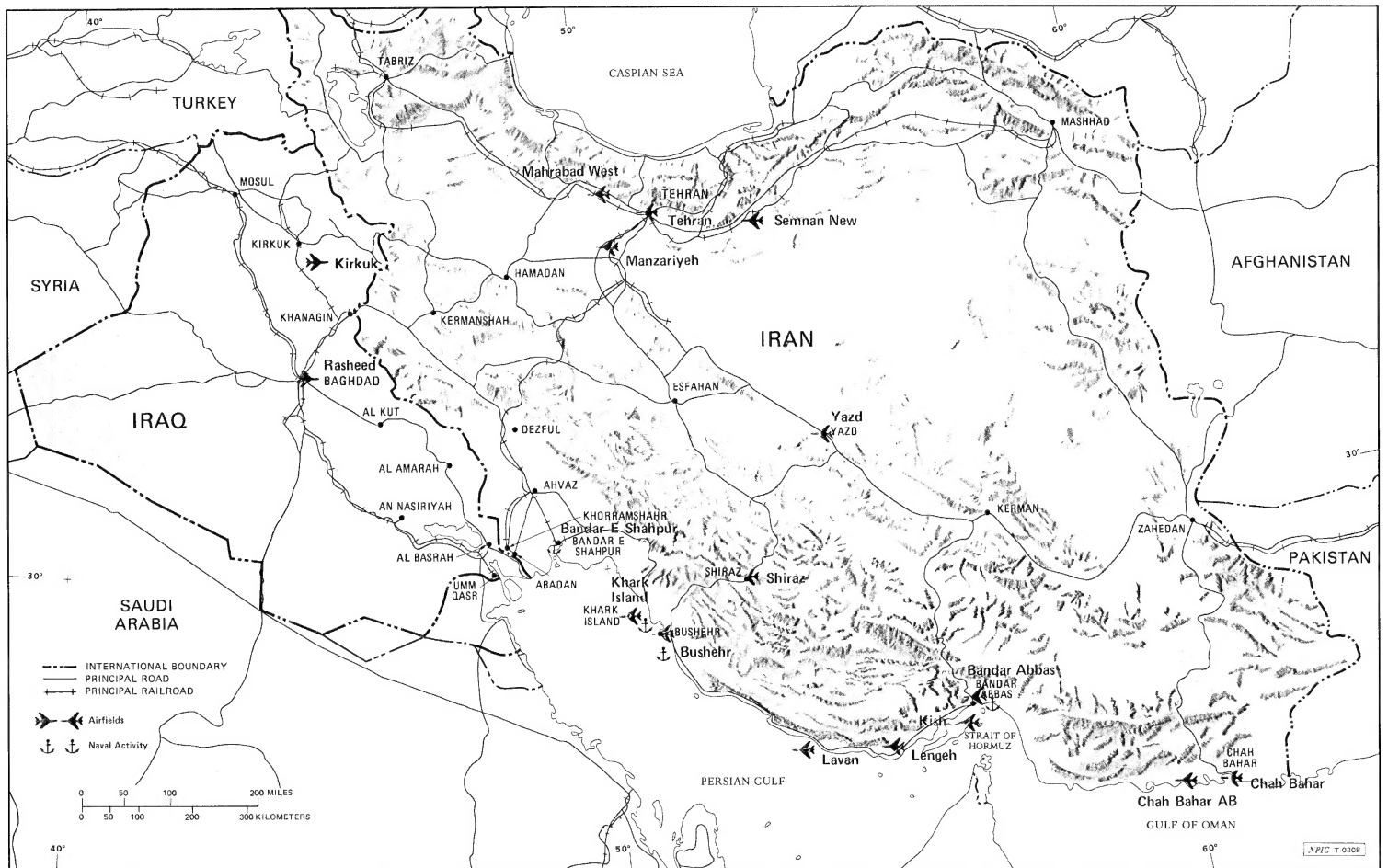


FIGURE 5. IRAQI/IRANIAN AIR AND NAVAL FACILITIES

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POL FACILITIES

49. (S/D) Nine Iraqi facilities were observed—five in the southeastern portion of the country, two in Baghdad, and two in Kirkuk (Figure 7). Eighteen Iranian facilities were imaged—14 in the southwestern portion of the country, two on Lavan Island, one in Tehran, and one in Tabriz. New damage was observed at three Iraqi and one Iranian POL-related facility during the reporting period.

Iraq

50. (S/D) The sea island POL transfer facility at Khor Al Amaya POL Terminal [] was extensively damaged []. All four of the loading islands were blackened and appeared to be seriously damaged. Several walkways and pipelines were damaged/destroyed.

51. (S/D) Extensive damage was observed at Mina Al Bakir Port Facilities []. The POL loading arms at one of the four loading islands were destroyed, and the three other loading islands were blackened by fire. Additionally, the helicopter/housing area was partially destroyed.

52. (S/D) One large POL tank had been burned, resulting in some structural damage at Al Faw Crude Petroleum Storage [].

53. (S/D) No damage to the Baghdad Petroleum Refinery Ad Dawrah [] was observed on partial coverage []. However, two warehouse-type buildings outside the facility had sustained roof damage.

Iran

54. (S/D) One VLCC was moored offshore from Khark Island at the Iran Pan-American Oil Company Sea Loading Terminal []. A second VLCC was observed underway [] and was moored offshore []. A probable POL barge [] remained moored east of Khark Island [].

55. (S/D) A barge carrying eight large POL trucks was being towed into the Persian Gulf from the direction of Jazireh Ye Khark Naval Base [] on the eastern shore of Khark Island, [].

56. (S/D) The hydrocracking unit at Tabriz Petroleum Refinery [] was destroyed between []. It appeared that this facility was no longer operational.

57. (S/D) No change in status was observed at the following facilities.

Iraq

Az Zubayr Pump Station Gas, Oil Separation and Storage []
Az Zubayr Gas Oil Separation Plant No 1 []
Baghdad Petroleum Products Storage Ummal Adham []
Baghdad Petroleum Refinery Ad Dawrah []
Jabulur Degassing Station []
Kirkuk Petroleum Storage Town []

Iran

Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant PU 1 []
Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant PU 2 []
Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant PU 3 []
Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant PU 4 []
Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant PU 5 []
Marun Gas Oil Separation Plant No 6 []
Bandar E Mashur Petroleum Product Storage and Gas Plant []
Bandar E Mashur Petroleum Pump Station []
Bandar E Mashur Petroleum Storage North []
Bandar E Mashur Petroleum Terminal []
Gach Saran Pump Station Gas Oil Separation Plant and Storage []
Gach Saran Topping and Stabilization Plant []
Jazireh Ye Khark Petroleum Facilities []
Tehran Petroleum Storage NIOC []
Shiraz Petroleum Refinery []
Jazireh Ye Lavan Petroleum Topping and Gas Oil Separation Plant []
Lavan Island Petroleum Terminal []

OTHER

Iran

58. (S/D) Some movement of vehicles at the US Embassy Tehran [] occurred []. The two buses and one possible van previously observed in the northern parking area were not present []. A large bus had arrived in the northern parking area. A fluctuation in the number of sedans within the compound was observed during the reporting period.

59. (S/D) The major border transshipment point on the Iranian/Turkish border near Bazargan, Iran, appeared to be open and operational []. Approximately 300 trucks and 200 sedans were on the Iranian side of the border, while approximately 140 trucks were inside Turkey. When the transshipment point was last observed [] approximately 285 trucks were in Iran, and approximately 110 trucks were in Turkey.

Saudi Arabia

60. (S/D) A Soviet-bloc Ivan Skuridin-class RO/RO arms carrier was observed at Juddah Port Facilities, Saudi Arabia []. A Khudoznik Saryan-class containerized cargo ship was also present. No military equipment was observed on either vessel or on the docks. The vessels had also been present [].

61. (S/D) Khabari Al Huwah AW Site [] 2.5 nm south of the Iraq/Saudi Arabia border, was newly identified at 32-08-15N 039-29-47E []. The secured operational site included two FLAT FACE radars, one SQUAT EYE radar, one probable R-400/404 radio-relay set, and six barracks under construction. A probably related EW site 4 nm northwest of the AW site, at 32-10-30N 039-25-50E, included a TOKEN-type radar and a possible SIDE NET radar. This site is probably Iraqi controlled, since this type of Soviet radar equipment is not in the Saudi Arabian inventory.

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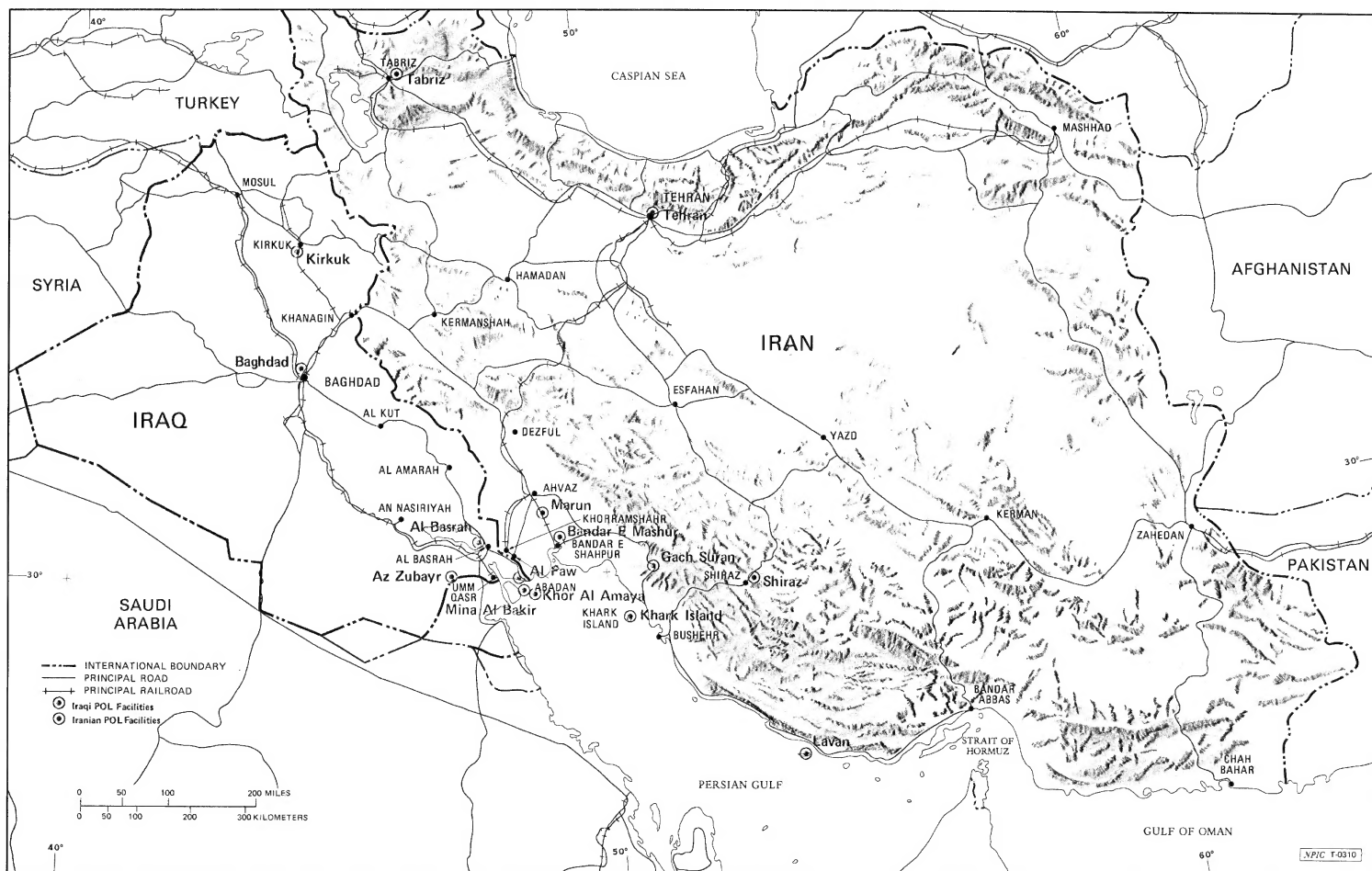


FIGURE 7. POL FACILITIES IN IRAQ AND IRAN

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GLOSSARY OF
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

This glossary in its entirety is UNCLASSIFIED

AA	Antiaircraft
AAA	Antiaircraft artillery
AD	Air defense
AORL	Small replenishment oiler
APB	Barracks ship
APC	Armored personnel carrier
AR	Repair ship
ARD-D	Floating drydock
ARD-T	Auxiliary repair dock
AW	Air warning
AWK	Water carrier
AX	Training ship
CP	Command post
DD	Destroyer
DDG	Guided missile destroyer
DIW	Dead in the water
EW	Early warning
FA	Field artillery
FEG	Guided missile frigate
LCM	Medium landing craft
LCU	Utility landing craft
LSM	Medium amphibious assault landing ship
IST	Amphibious vehicle landing ship
MRL	Multiple rocket launcher
MSC	Coastal minesweeper
MSF	Fleet minesweeper
MSI	Inshore minesweeper
NM	Nautical miles
PACV	Patrol air cushion vehicle
PB	Patrol boat
PBA/PCFA	Patrol boat air cushion
PBR	River/roadstead patrol boat
PCL	Small submarine chaser
PCS	Submarine chaser
PF	Patrol frigate
PGM	Motor gunboat
PMP	Heavy folding ponton bridge
POL	Petroleum, oil, and lubricant
PTG	Missile attack boat
RTP	Rail-to-road transfer point
RO/RO	Roll-on/roll-off
SAM	Surface-to-air missile
SP	Self-propelled
SPAA	Self-propelled antiaircraft
SPG	Self-propelled gun
SSM	Surface-to-surface missile
TEL	Transporter-erector-launcher
TMM	Truck-mounted bridge
VLCC	Very large crude carrier

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MAPS OR CHARTS

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